THE

Great Bastard,

PROTECTOR

OF THE

Little One.

Done out of French.

And for which, a PROCLAMATION, with a Reward of 5000 Lewedores, to Discover the Author, was Publish'd.

Printed at *Cologne*, MDCLXXXIX.

THE

Great Bastard,

PROTECTOR

OF THE

Little One.

Done out of French.

And for which, a PROCLAMATION, with a Reward of [illegible] Lewedores, to Discover the Author, was Publish'd.

Printed at *Cologne*, MDCLXXXIX.

THE Great Bastard Protector of the Little One, &c.

WE find in *Holy Writ*, that in the *Jewish* Law, it was expresly provided by the Supreme Legislator, *That a Bastard should not enter into the Congregation of the Lord, even to the tenth Generation*: But it seems the Unhappy Kingdom of *France* allows the Bastard himself, not only to enter into the Congregation, but to settle himself upon the Throne, and to bear it higher than all the preceeding Kings before him, which had a better right to do it, as being the Offspring of Kings, and not *the Sons of the People*, the proper term the *Roman* Law gives to *Bastards*. We have heard of the *Salick Law*, in force in that Kingdom, for a great many Ages, by which the Crown of *France cannot fall from the Sword to the Distaff*, but till the blessed days of our *August Mo-*

narch, we never had the happineſs to be acquainted with a Law or Cuſtom, by which that was in the power of a Queen of *France*, to provide us an Heir to the Crown, without the concurrence of her Husband, and to impoſe upon us for our King, a Brat of another Man's making. All the Reign of our *Invincible Monarch*, has been a conſtant Series of Wonders; but among them all, this is none of the leaſt, That he who was in the opinion of all the World, *the Son of a private Gentleman*, from his birth till the end of *the Prince of Conde's Wars*, has had the good fortune to be ever ſince, no leſs *than the Son of Lewis the Thirteenth*. After this, let no body call in queſtion the commonly ſuppoſed Fable, of the Tranſmutation of *Iphis* from a Woman to a Man, ſince to be tranſlated from a *Baſtard*, to a *Son lawfully begotten*, is equally as difficult.

Among a great many other Quarrels, I have with the *Engliſh Nation*, this is one, that they are a People too nice in believing Miracles; and their Haughtineſs is ſuch, as they ſcorn, forſooth, to believe Impoſſibilities: for albeit they, and all the reſt of the World about them, are firmly perſwaded, that *the little bable Prince of Wales*, was never of Queen

Queen *Mary's* bearing, much less of King *James's* begetting, yet if these Infidels had been as *well-mannerly ereduloms*, as we in *France* have been, of the wonderful Transmutation of our *Lowis le Grand*, they needed not have made all this noise about *the little Impostor Infant*, but might have comforted themselves in the hopes, that he who was a Spurious Prince of *Wales* to day, might some years hence, by a new *French* way of *Transubstantiation*, become a lawfully begotten King of *England*. But the mischief of all is, these stiff-necked Hereticks, ever since they fell off from the Communion of the Holy Church, make bold to call in question all our Miracles; and such a one as this would be, I am afraid they would stick at, among others.

Good God! how happy had it been for *France*, yea, for a great part of the World, that the *French* had been as great Infidels, upon the point of Miracles, as the Heretick *English*; and that our *Lowis the fourteenth* had been hurl'd out of *Erance*, when but *Dolphin of Viennois*, as *the little Mock Prince of Wales* has been out of *England*, when scarce well handled into the light? What dismal Tragedies has our *French Impostor*

caus'd in *Christendom*? How many Cities laid in ashes, Countries ruined, Families extinguished, and millions of Lives sacrific'd to the Vanity and Ambition of a *Bastard*?

The *Hugonots* of *France*, of all People in the World, have most reason to be ashamed of their conduct, with relation to *this Ungrate Monster*, in the time of his Minority, and of *the Prince of Conde's Wars*: and these People who disown a thousand things in the Catholick Religion, meerly upon the account of their being, in their opinion, *irreconcilable to Reason*, did strangely contradict, not only *common Fame*, but even *Reason itself*, in being brought to think, that it was possible that *Lowis the Fourteenth* should be the true Son of *Lowis the Thirteenth*, after near half a *Jubilee* of Years past in Marriage betwixt him and *Anne of Austria*, his Queen, without the least hope of Issue, with all the concurring signs of a natural Impotency upon his side. But these Gentlemen have paid dear enough for their opinions, and have had sufficient time and occasion to read their past Folly, in their present Affliction, and to call to mind with regret, their unaccountable Madness in assisting him to re-ascend the Throne of *France*, whom almost *the whole*

Nation, the Princes of the Blood, and the *Parliament of Paris* had combin'd together to tumble down, and had certainly done it, if the *Hugonots* had not turn'd the Scale. These poor *Hugonots* have had so many sad occasions since, to repent their fault, that I confess it's scarce *generous* to upbraid *the miserable* with the follies they cannot now amend, and which has brought upon them so many misfortunes. And yet I must beg leave to tell them, That as their Zeal to *Lewis the 14th's* unjust Interest, was the original cause, in my opinion, of Heaven's thus afflicting them by his Hands; so it was indeed the true Motive that induc'd this *Ungrate* to ruin them. For thus it was, that he and *his Jesuitick Cabal* reason'd among themselves; If the *Hugonots* in the late Prince of *Conde's* Wars, when the Crown was *at Stake* were able to turn the Ballance, and to draw Victory and Success to the side they espous'd, which at that time was *ours*; By the same parity of Reason, If the same *Hugonots* shall at any time hereafter be induc'd to joyn against us, and to take our Enemies part, they will without all doubt turn the Scale on the other side, and prove as dangerous Enemies as formerly they were Friends; and thence by a Diabolical way of Reasoning, it was concluded

cluded that it was the true Interest of the Crown, that the *Hugonots* should be utterly destroyed.

By the way, I must, tho contrary to my inclination, do a piece of Justice to *Lewis* the 14*th*. in Vindicating him from a common aspersion cast upon him by the *Hugonots*, and it's this: Over and above the foulest Ingratitude imaginable, (in which Charge I heartily agree with them) he is chargeable with, as to them they will needs load him to the boot, with no less than *perjury and breach of Faith*, in not observing the famous Edict of *Nants*, which was granted to them by King *Henry the Fourth*, and declared by him to be in all time coming, an irrevocable and fundamental Constitution of the State; which Edict, say they, *Lewis the* 14*th*. swore at his Coronation inviolably to observe. I confess this is a heavy Charge; but to speak no worse of the Devil than he deserves, in my opinion our *Lewis le Grand* is not chargeable upon that score, as not being bound to the observance of that Edict, even tho having sworn it: If we shall consider, that by the expres words of the Edict it self, King *Henry* obliges *Himself and his lawful Successors only*, that is, those who shall succeed to the Crown of

France

France in a lawful deſcent of Royal Blood. Now I think no man will ſay, that by this Clauſe of the Edict, an extraneous perſon, ſuch as *our Interloper Lewis the 14th. is*, can be included; and therefore as having none of the Royal Blood of *France* in his Veins, he cannot be juſtly charg'd with perjury or breach of Faith, in not obſerving one Edict, which was declared and meant to oblige only the lawful Succeſſors of *King Henry the Fourth*.

Here I cannot but relate a Diſcourſe I had once with one of *the Fathers of the Capucian Order*; the very day after the Revocation of the Edict of *Nants*, and which may ſerve to anſwer one Objection naturally ariſing, from what I have ſaid upon this Head. All *Paris* was fill'd with the noiſe of this Affair, and in every corner, both *Papiſt* and *Proteſtant* was reaſoning upon it; among the reſt the good *Capucin* and I would needs turn both *Stateſmen* and *Caſuiſts* on the Subject. We loſt betwixt us, all the Arguments we could fall upon, to vindicate, if poſſible, the Kings ſo aprently unjuſt action; and in the end we came to reaſon, how far the King was oblig'd to the obſervance of the Edict of *Nants*, upon the account of his not being indeed the lawful

ful Succeſſor of *Henry the 4th* the granter of it. But, ſaid I, *Father, tho I ſhould agree, that the King is not oblig'd by that Edict at firſt, for the reaſon we have named, yet his Poſterior ſwearing to obſerve it, makes him as lyable to the obſeruance of it, as if he were really the true Succeſſor of* Henry *the 4th. and of the Royal Blood of* France. To this the *Capucin* returned me a very ſatisfactory Anſwer: *Sir*, ſays he, *It ſeems you are but little acquainted with the Caſſuiſtick Doctrine and Principles of the Jeſuits, and have not the happineſs to be acquainted with Father* le Cheſe *the Kings Confeſſor, ſo well as I; and therefore I'le tell you one Evaſion, a Wit like his, will ſoon find out to remove all needleſs ſcruples from the Kings mind, ariſing from his Swearing the Edict of* Nants, *and its this: The words of the Oath which the King did take at his Coronation was theſe, And ſeeing this Edict was declared by King* Henry *4th our Grandfather of Glorious Memory, to be irrevocable, and that his lawful Succeſſors the ſucceeding Kings of* France *ſhould ſwear the ſame at their Coronation, therefore we do hereby promiſe and ſwear faithfully and inviolably to obſerve the ſaid Edict all the days of our Life-time. Now theſe being the very words of the Kings Oath,* (continues the *Capucin*)

How

how proper and easie was it for the Reverend Father le Chese, to tell him, Sire, You are not at all obliged by this Oath, because it leans upon, and contains in its very bosom, a Supposition, upon the removal of which, the whole Oath it self does necessarily fall, viz. Your Majesty's being the Grand-child of Henry *the* 4th; *which neither you your self, nor no body else does believe: So that if your Majesty has sworn an Oath, wherein there is an express supposition that you are the Grand-child of* Henry *the* 4th, *which you are not, the Oath it self, as leaning on that false supposition, must necessarily fall with it, and becomes in it self void. I hope you are wiser,* (concludes the *Capucin* to me) *but to think that F.* le Chese *might use all this freedom with his ignorant bigotted Pupil, but slaved to his Direction, especially that he is acquainted with all the Villanies of his Life, and in particular with his criminal Privacies with the Dauphiness.* Thus far the *Capucin*'s Discourse and mine, and I must say, upon reflection, I cannot devine an Evasion which Father *le Chese* could have fallen upon more plausible, to perswade his enslav'd Pupil to Revoke the *Edict of Nants*, than this the *Capucin* hinted at.

But I know the Reader will tell me, What means all this pudder upon a meer Supposition, that *Lewis le Grand* is a *Bastard*, without

making it appear, or proving that he is so? I acknowledge, that of all the Tasks one ever ventured upon, that of proving a Man to be a *Baſtard*, is the hardeſt; for when a Woman deſigns to bring another then her Husband to her Bed, ſhe uſes not to order ſuch and ſuch perſons to ſtand by, that they may bear Teſtimony of her Crime: and tho' ſome Women may come the length of Inadvertence or Impudence, in being too open in their Amours, yet when they have to do with a *Gallant* that's concern'd in Honour, and oblig'd by his *Character*, to be more reſerved in his Pleaſures; its not to be imagin'd, but ſhe will be taught to play her part, if not *chaſtly*, yet *cautiouſly*. All the World knows that the *Cardinals of Richelew* and *Mazarin*, were capable of keeping their own Secrets; and yet it's to be regrated, that their *Amours* with *an Invincible Monarch's Mother*, were hard enough to be concealed, ſo many are the Spies about the Courts of Princes.

That *Anne of Auſtria* found a way to provide an Heir to *Lowis the* 13th, without putting him to the pains of getting it himſelf, will appear clearly enough, if we take a view of all the Circumſtances that meet in this Affair, which all taken together, leaves us no room to doubt of that *Queen's* concern for *perpetuating* her *Husband's Memory* at *any Coſt*. *Com-*

Common Fame was ever lookt upon as a great presumption of the Truth of a thing, especially if joyned to other *concurring Circumstances*: and never did that *prating Goddess* extend her voice louder, than in proclaiming to the World, the Spurious Birth of our *August Monarch*: Time was when she did not whisper it in Corners, but expresst it in publick *Pictures*, *Plays*, *Farces*, and what not? Modesty will not allow me to mention the bawdy Shapes of these two sorts of Bread, call'd to this day *the Queen's Bread*, and *the Cardinal's Bread*, sold thro *Paris*, and in most places of *France*; so that at that time, one could scarce sit down to eat, but he was put in mind of the *Queen's and the Cardinal's Amours*. It were in vain to enumerate the thousand part of the *Satyrs* and *Pasquils* on this Subject, for a great many Years; each Pen out-vying one another, in the Glory of propagating to Posterity, the Love Passions of these *two Mighty Cardinal Ministers of State*; let this one upon *Cardinal Richelew*, affixt on his *Palace*, serve for all:

What means th' Ungrate French to hate
The only true Support of State?
What greater Favour could there be,
Shown to the King, Queen, State, all three;
Than to provide, by his Unwearied Care, [Heir?
The King a Son, the Queen a Husband, and the State an

Impotency is one of those Imperfections, a Man is most unwilling to take with, being that which un-mans him, and renders him the scorn of *his own*, and the abhorrence of the *other Sex*: It can only be proved by *presumptions*; and these are for the most part reducible, either to *his indifference for the fair Sex in general*, or for *his own Wife in particular*; *the weakness of his Constitution*, or *his Cohabiting with a Woman of a sound Body and proportion'd Age, for a considerable time, without having any Issue by her.* All these Presumptions, and some more than perhaps *Decency* will allow me to name, will be found in *Lewis the* 13th, the supposed Father of our *August Monarch.*

I think there can be no greater proof of a Man's *indifference for the fair Sex*, in general, or his own Wife in particular, then when a man in the heat of his Youth, has a right by Marriage to the Bed of a beautiful and young Princess, has her constantly in his view, and in his power, and yet at the same time, can for some Years together abstaine from those Embraces, which Marriage has not only made *lawful*, but a *Duty*: and this unwonted coldness in Youth, is the more to be jealous'd, that, previous to the Marriage, the Man did express an *eager impatience* to enjoy his *young Bride*; for the subse-

quent

quent Coldness and Abstinence does clearly insinuate a consciousness of his being mistaken of himself, and that upon tryal he has found his power not answerable to his will.

Of all this, we have a pretty clear instance in *Lewis* the 13th. Upon his being married by Proxy to *Anna of Austria Infanta of Spain*, afterwards *Mother to our Invincible Monarch*, he expressed the greatest eagerness to enjoy her, and having gone the length of *Burdeaux* to meet her, his desires vented themselves in the following *Letter*, sent her some few days before her arrival:

MADAME,

SInce I cannot, according to my longing Desire, find myself near you, at your entry into my Kingdom, to put you in possession of the Power I have, and of that entire Affection I have in my breast to Love and Serve you: I send you Luynes, *one of the most trustiest of my Servants, to Salute you in my Name, and to tell you, that you are expected by me with the greatest impatience, to offer unto you* MYSELF: *I pray therefore receive him favourably, and believe what he shall tell you.* Madam, *from your most dear Friend and Servant.*

LOWIS.

The

The *strain* of this Letter seems to be somewhat rough, and the word *Offer of himself*, is pretty expressive, as coming from a young *Bridegroom* to a young and beautiful *Bride*. Now who would have dreamt, but this *skirmishing* by Letters should have produced a *full Battel* at meeting? But alas! our Young Master having bedded his Queen but for the space of two Hours, rises up from his Nuptial-bed, too late conscious to himself, of his unfitness for *the Sports of Venus*: And albeit he was in his Queen's company every day for four Years thereafter, his false Desires never led him once again, during all that time, to try a *second Rencounter*: Yea, it was expected by every body, he should never have ventured to bed the Queen again, if *his Favourite Luynes* had not trickt him into it, the very night of his *Sister's* Marriage with *the Prince of Piedmont*: for *Luynes* finding the King in a good jolly humor, and talking more wantonly than ordinary, he grasps him out of his Bed, in his arms, and throwing a Night-gown about him, brings him unexpectedly into the Queen's Bed. It was indeed pretended, that the reason of this four Years Abstinence was for fear the Marriage-bed might hinder *the King's growth*, and *enervate his strength*: And yet it's hard to believe, that such a *politick Consideration* could prevail with a

Man

Man that had any *boiling Blood* in his Veins; but every body will be apt at the first dash, to draw this Consequence from it, that there was more in it of a *Winter chilness*, than usually suits with Youth.

From the beginning of the Year 1619, to 1628, *King Lewis the* 13th continued to Cohabit with his Queen: and often in his *melancholy Fits*, to which he was naturally subject, he would complain to his *Confidents*, That he knew certainly the Queen would have no Children to him. Upon which fell out a *remarkable Passage*, that serves mightily to Unriddle some difficulties in this Affair: One day at *Fontenblean*, the time of his Brother *Monsieur's* Wars against him, being in a sullen Fit, he began to regrate to some few about him, his misfortune of not having Children of his own body; which he said was the cause of *Monsieur's* Insolence against him, and of *his Power with the People*, as being *presumptive Heir* of the Crown. Hereupon some of them began to tell him, That for Reasons of State, it was very fit to procure a Divorce from the Queen; and that perhaps another Wife might bring him Children to Inherit the Crown of *France*, and put *Monsieur* beside the *Cushion*. But *Luynes*, who knew the King's Infirmity best, taking him aside, told him with his usual freedom, *Sire*,

Unless you resolve to ruine yourself for good and all, let there never be the least mention made in time coming, of a Divorce from the Queen; for if any such thing shall come to her ears, she will be sure to lay the blame of her Barrenness upon your Majesty; and this every body will believe, and which will render Monsieur's Pretensions insupportable. And indeed it was from this Consideration, that the motion of a Divorce was ever afterwards laid aside, least the Queen should be provoked, to tell out the Truth, and thereby *Monsieur's* Interest elevated a pin higher than suited with the King's safety.

There is another great Presumption of one's *Impotency*, when a Man evinces himself to be indifferent not only for his own Wife, but for *the whole fair Sex* in general: *Lowis the* 13th gave ample proofs of *this sort of Vertue*, if it be one; having been never seen to cast one single warm glance at any of the Beauties of the Court, and never heard to utter one expression that could be interpreted amorous.

Of this Indifference of his, for the fair Sex, there is one pretty instance, in an expression he had to *Monsieur* his Brother, upon the occasion of his marrying *the Duke of Lorrain's Daughter*, against the King's will: *Monsieur* having told him, by way of excuse, that he chus'd rather to

Marry

Marry at any rate, then to live in Whoredom; and one of the two he ſaid his Conſtitution obliged him to do. *Brother*, replies the King, *You and I it ſeems are of different tempers, for I could live all my life without either of them.* Here was a modeſt, tho' untimous confeſſion of his *Indifference*, if not *Impotency*; and indeed *Monſieur* was not wanting to improve it in his *Circular Letters*, he wrote to his *Partiſans*, a few months after, upon his retiring to *Bruſſels*.

There is another *Story* much of the ſame nature, that paſſed betwixt the King and his Favorite *Luyenes*, about the Divorce from the Queen, when it was firſt talkt of: *Luyenes* told him, That the only way to ſtop the Queen's mouth in the matter of the *Divorce*, was for the King to give an evidence, that her Barrenneſs was not from his fault, by trying to get Children by ſome other Woman; and hereupon he mention'd one of the handſomeſt Ladies about Court, as a fit Miſtreſs for him. The King anſwered coldly, *Mais je vous aſſure Luyenes, je ne ſonge pas a telles choſes*: *But I aſſure you*, ſays he, Luyenes, *I do not think upon theſe things.* And ſo the Diſcourſe was dropt.

I ſhall only name one other inſtance more of the King's *indifference for the fair Sex*, becauſe it was ſo publick, and had ſo much of Ralliary in

it: The King being one day playing at Cards with *Mademoiselle Rambouliet*, it happen'd that the King alledged upon her, she had dropt a Carde on design, saying, he would have it be where it will: the Lady finding she was discover'd, slipt the Carde into her breast, saying, *Sire, I am assured you will not take it out here*: Which was true, for the King gave over any further search, when he see the Carde was in her bosom.

A great many attributed this *Indifference* of the King's for his own Lady, and all other Women, to *the weakness of his Constitution*; and indeed he was of the tenderest and sickliest imaginable, being from his birth weak in his limbs, and *Asthmatick* to his dying day. The *Duke of Espernon*, rallaying one day with the King's Physician, told him, He was afraid the King might over heat himself in the Embraces of a young and beautiful Queen. The Physician nodding his head, answer'd him, *It must be a great heat that will thaw his Majesty's Ice.*

But tho' *Lowis the* 13th, had been a *just Admirer of his own Queen, and of the fair Sex in general*, and had neither been branded with *Impotency*, nor known to be of a *weakly Constitution*, what a wonderful thing was it, that what a man could not do in *the heat of his Youth*, he should in the beginning of *the autumn of his Age*, and that

there

there ſhould be *twenty three Years* betwixt their Marriage and the Birth of their firſt Child? I remember the *Poets* tell us, that *Jupiter*, when he was to beget *Hercules*, was neceſſitated to make a *night three times longer than the ordinary*, ſo difficult was it even for *the Father of the Gods* to beget *an Heroe*: But our *Invincible Heroe*, *Lowis le Grand*, required a longer time to be gotten than *Hercules*, and *twenty three Years* was little enough time to produce our *Auguſt Monarch*. What a ſhame was it for *Cardinal Richelew* to throw away ſo much pains to no purpoſe? And how eaſie had it been to have made the King a Father, and the Queen a Mother, in the twentieth part of that time, if he had but underſtood *the new Engliſh way* of getting and bearing Children? But it ſeems the Art of impoſing *Infant Princes* was not then brought to that perfection, it has been of late; and *Anna of Auſtria* was not ſo good a Proficient in the Trade, as *Mary of Modena*. What needed the former have made herſelf the talk of all *France*, for her *Intrigues* with her *two Cardinals*? It had been the eaſieſt thing in the World to make her a Mother, without the trouble of one *ſingle throwe*: A cloſe *Baliſter about the Bed*, and a *convenient Paſſage at the head of it*, with a *wary Midwife*, and one or two more *truſty Confidents*, might have done juſt as well.

But the Curſe of all was, our *Lowis the* 13th was neither to be impos'd upon, in ſuch an Affair, nor could be brought into *the Deſign* himſelf; His malice to his Brother, the next Heir, tho' at War with him, came not up to that length, as to cheat him of the Throne. And tho' *Lowis the* 13th had been capable of ſo great a *Weakneſs*, or rather *Madneſs*, his Brother *Monſieur* was too much concern'd, to let the Queen impoſe upon him, one to exclude him from the Crown: During the Queen's bigneſs, *Monſieur* had his conſtant Spies about her, to watch her motions, and to tell him every thing that paſt: Upon the news of the Queen's being *in Labour*, *Monſieur* was not out of the way, but haſtens away to her *Bed-Chamber*; and his Sedulity and Watchfulneſs was ſcarce allowable in Modeſty; the leaſt circumſtance about the *Mother* and *Child*, did not eſcape his *prying Curioſity*, and *the Field of Nature itſelf* was laid open to his view; ſuch is the misfortune of Princeſſes, when bearing Children, in prejudice of other Mens rights. *Monſieur* retiring himſelf to his Chamber, in a melancholly mood, (as he had good reaſon) was asked of by *Eſpernon*, what he had ſeen: *Alas!* ſays he, *I am ſure I ſaw it come out, but who the Devil put it in, I know not.*

Queen *Mary of Modena* took a ſhorter cut, and

a

a more modeſt method of Lying in: She would neither allow *the Princeſſes* concerned, to ſearch into her *Bigneſs*, nor permit any in their Name, to be preſent at *her Labour:* The poor *Princeſs of Denmark* was hurried away to the *Bath*, upon the pretence of her health; and *the Queen Dowager* was not brought in, till *the Game was over.* And who can blame a *modeſt Italian*, to be more reſerv'd in *the Secrets of Nature*, than a *blunt Spaniard?* How happy was it for *the firſt*, that inſtead of *two Princeſſes* at a diſtance, ſhe did not meet with a *Bluſtering Duke of Orleance*, to peep more narrowly into the Scheme of her Contrivances, and render her and her Plot ridiculous.

But to return to the happy Birth of our *Lowis le Grand*; it ſeems all the Endeavours of *Cardinal Richelew*, to provide an *Heir* for *France*, were unſucceſsful; whether *his Brain* and his *other Parts* were not of a piece, or his preſſing Cares of State, joyn'd to ſome natural Impediment were the cauſe of it, I cannot tell: But it was reſerved for a perſon of *a meaner Condition*, tho' of a more *robuſt Conſtitution*, to effectuate, what this *Conſummate Church-man* had attempted in vain: *Monſieur le Grand*, a Gentleman of a comely Perſon, and ſprightly Spirit, and a courtly Genius, was lookt upon as the fit-

teſt

teſt Perſon to make up the defects of *an Impotent King*, and a *Wearied Favorite-Cardinal*. This *Carpet Knight* was admitted into the *Embraces* of the Queen, and by her *teeming Belly*, ſhe found, within a few months, that ſhe had hit upon a fit *Stallion* to propagate the Royal Family of *France*.

It's generally thought, this Gentleman was not ſo much the Queen's own choice, as that of *Richelew*; and that this *Refin'd Miniſter* perſuaded the Queen to entertain *Monſieur le Grand* for her Gallant, out of a meer Principle of State, as being more likely to make the Queen a Mother, than he himſelf was: And this is the rather believed, that it is generally known, that immediately after the Queen was found to be with Child, *M. le Grand* was diſmiſt the Court, upon the honourable pretence of being made *Lieutenant-Criminal of Provence*; the wily *Cardinal* fearing his Intimacy with the Queen, might prejudice him in her favour; and indeed after *this Jobb* was done, the *Cardinal* had no more uſe for him, as the ſequel made it too evident.

Pliny tells us a ſtory of the *Wolf*, That he never ſees his *Sire*; becauſe, ſays he, he is murdered by the reſt of the Wolves, out of envy, that he was prefer'd by the ſhe Wolf, before them. The ſame fate had the Father of this *Rapacious Creature*,

285

Creature, Lewis the 14th; for being nous'd into the Conſpiracy of *Monſieur de Monmorancy*, he was beheaded at *Tholouſe*, by the *Cardinal*'s expreſs Command; who was unwilling the Queen ſhould have an abler *Gallant* than himſelf, for the future.

I cannot but regrate the fate of this poor Gentleman, in being firſt brought to the Bed of a Queen, and thereafter in having his Head chopt off, meerly that he might not tell *Tales*, or give any *Jealouſie* to his *Rival*, in the Queen's favour: Yet I judge him happy in this, that he did not live to ſee the *Monſter* he had begotten.

There happen'd a memorable Paſſage at his Death, which was this: Being all along, after his Condemnation, laid aſleep with an aſſurance of a Pardon, even upon the Scaffold, to the end he might not diſcover any of his *Criminal Secrecies* with the Queen; at laſt, being deſir'd *to lay down his Head*, for the blow, he came to underſtand, too late, that he was cheated out of his life; and juſt when he was beginning to expreſs himſelf in theſe words: *O! la Vanite d' eſtre aime d une fame cruele, &c. O! the Vanity of being lov'd by a Woman cruel, and devoted to the villanous Counſels of a Church-man.* Here the fatal Axe did put an end to the Sentence, and to his Life together.

This

This end had *Monſieur le Grand*, Father of our *Auguſt Monarch*: And it's but juſt, his Son ſhould bear the name of *Le Grand*, not as an *Epithet*, but as the *Sirname of his Father*, *Le Grand*, by way of Epithet, being never his due. And thus was *Cardinal Richelew* revenged upon him, for being a fitter and abler *Gallant* to the Queen, than himſelf, tho' at firſt he was not only *the Privado*, but the *firſt Incourager* of their *Amours*.

When I am on this Subject, I cannot but mention *a Droll ſort of Letter*, written about that time by *Monſieur* to the *Duke of Lorrain*, his Brother-in-law, from *Bruſſels*, which was afterwards found among *the Duke of Lorrain's* Papers taken at St. *Michel*, which was to this purpoſe: *Your Highneſs accuſes me unjuſtly, for not obtaining from* Monſieur le Grand, *when he was with me, a declaration of his Privacies with the Queen; which you ſay, would have mightily furthered my Affairs: But, Sir,* tho' M. le Grand, *at ſome certain times, out of a tranſporte of fury againſt the Queen, for her Unkindneſs, as he term'd it, would confeſs to me the whole Secrets paſt betwixt the Queen and him; yet the very next moment, he would paſs from all he had ſaid, and affirm, that what he ſpoke formerly, was but in jeſt. One night, when we were ſpeaking of retiring from Court, I brought him to promiſe, that he ſhould wait*

wait on me the next morning, to give me an ample Declaration of what I sought of him; but he changed his mind that very night, and told me the next day, that he would do it some other time, when our Affairs were better ripened. Being astonish'd at this sudden change, I found by inquiry, that the Cardinal had sent for him that very night, and that he was in his Privy-Chamber above an hour together; and what past betwixt them two, I cannot devine, but by the event. Notwithstanding of all this, concludes *Monsieur*'s Letter, *I cannot think but this Unfortunate has left some such Declaration in the hands of some of his Friends, which if it could be fallen upon, would mightily conduce to the good of our Affairs*, &c.

In this Letter, we see *Monsieur* asserts plainly, that *Monsieur le Grand* confessed to him *his Privacies* with the Queen, and had promised in his angry Fits, to declare them under his hand; tho I must say, it was not generous on his part, let the Queen's Ingratitude to him be what it will: and it's more than probable, that the taking vent of this Affair, haſtned his Ruine. It seems *Mademoselle*, who is yet alive, Daughter to *Monsieur*; was perswaded of the truth of this *Intreigue*, and that her Father had told her how little right *Lowis the* 14th had to the Crown; since a great many Years after, at *the Barricado of*

Paris, this *Princess* went in person to the *Bastile*, and with her own hand fir'd *the first Gun*, against the King's Forces, with this expression, *I know of no right he has here.*

If *likeness* be a sign of a near relation, never was there two faces liker to one another, than these of our *Invincible Monarch*, and *Mr le Grand*. And I must acknowledge the wisdom of the Queen, in causing *Mr Prime*, her Painter, call in all the Pictures of *Mr le Grand*, that he could possibly get into his hands, when she found her Son betray'd his true Father by his Physiognomy. For those who have seen *both the Originals*, will say, there was need of all this caution.

Thus the Cardinal *Richlieu* had the honour of being a *Gallant* to a Queen, and upon trial of his own want of a *prolifick quality*, had the goodness to provide another better qualified than himself. Notwithstanding of this obligation the Nation had to him, I cannot forgive *his Insolance* in ordering these words to be engraven in capital Letters, upon the *Pedestal* of *Lewis the 13th*'s Statue, in *the Palace Royal*, *Cardinalis Richlieus Coadjutor Suus in omnibus suis negotiis*, *The Cardinal* Richlieu, *his Helper in all his Affairs*: As if it had not been enough to have Cuckold'd his Master, without erecting him a Statue, meerly to tell the World *that he did so*.

As *Similitude in Faces*, is often a sign of a *Relation in Blood*; so the *likeness of Condition*, is as often an *Indearment in Love*, and the *motive to Friendship*. Let no body therefore blame *Lewis the Great*, for Patronizing the *little Prince of Wales*; it's but reasonable, the *Great Bastard* should protect the *little One*, and endeavour to set upon the *English Throne*, just such a Creature as is already upon *the French one*. It's just with our *Great Bastard*, as with the Fox in the Fable, who had the misfortune to lose his Tail, he would needs perswade his Neighbours to cut off theirs, that thereby he might hide his own deformity. It's certain *Lewis* and *William* would be content that all the Sceptres of *Christendom* were only sway'd by *Bastards*, that his own *Spurionsneſs* might be the leſs taken notice of. And if it be true, that some *Lawyers* affirm of the old Law of *Normandy*, that by it, *Bastards* did exclude *the lawfully begotten*; no body has reason to exclaim against *Lowis le Grand* his Succession to the Crown of *France*, since he is a *Norman* by birth, as born at *St. Germain en Lye*, the hithermoſt Town of that Province.

Methinks I hear *the little Prince of Wales*, or rather his *true Parents*, exclaiming against me heavily, for calling him so often a *Bastard*, and

thus pleading against the Injustice of my Pen: *What Devil must inspire a man to call one a Bastard, that is really begotten in lawful Wedlock; and though he had the good fortune to be brought into Queen Mary's Bed, by a skilful Midwife, to be there owned for her own Son; yet all this makes him not a Bastard, and they who would have refused to land their Son to be the Heir of three Crowns?* I confess there is reason in all this, and I am very unable to excuse both *the little Impostor* and *his Parents*, since few would have refused such an offer: and I oblige my self, That if ever I happen to be in *England*, when the Gentleman comes to be King, I shall beg his Pardon for giving him a Name he deserves not.

BRITISH MUSEUM

FINIS.

THE

Great Bastard

PROTECTOR of the Little ONE, &c.